

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
14 October 2004 (14.10.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/087285 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **B01D 15/08**, G01N 30/60, B01L 3/00
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/SE2004/000506
- (22) International Filing Date: 1 April 2004 (01.04.2004)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data: 0300975-0 3 April 2003 (03.04.2003) SE
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- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:**
— with international search report
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: CHROMATOGRAPHIC SEPARATION OF SUBSTANCES CONTAINED IN A LIQUID SAMPLE

(57) Abstract: A method for the chromatographic separation of substances contained in a liquid sample is disclosed which method comprises providing a one piece separation tray having a spaced array of discrete identical upstanding chambers each exhibiting an open upper end and an open lower end and a separation medium placed in at least part of each upstanding chamber; applying a liquid sample to said open upper end of at least one of said upstanding chambers; then applying an eluting liquid to said open upper end of said at least one of said upstanding chambers; and collecting at least one product fraction flowing out from the open lower end of said at least one of said upstanding chambers; wherein a monolith of a compressible macroporous gel having in its liquid-swollen, non-compressed state a cross-sectional area which is 2-15 %, preferably 4-12 % and most preferably 5-10 %, larger than the cross-sectional area of the upstanding chamber in which it is placed is used as said separation medium and is in face-to-face contact with the wall of the respective chamber in its liquid-swollen state. Processes for the preparation of monoliths to be used in such a method and a separation device for use in said method are also disclosed.

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